

Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

Please read the [Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan Guidance](#) prior to completing this form

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM)
(1) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME <i>State the legal name of the FAC</i>
Steens Mountain Advisory Council (Council)
(2) AUTHORITY <i>Identify the authority for establishing the FAC</i>
Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. 2
(3) MISSION/FUNCTION <i>Describe the mission/function of the FAC</i>
The Council was established to advise the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) concerning the planning and management of the public lands within the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA) as described in Title I of the Act.
(4) POINTS OF VIEW <i>Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC, (a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories (e.g. individual expertise or represented interests) from which candidates will be considered; (b) consider identifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and (c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members</i>
As outlined in the Act, the Council is comprised of 12 members. They are as follows: a private landowner in the CMPA (appointed from nominees submitted by the county court for Harney County); two members who are grazing permittees on the Federal lands in the CMPA; a member interested in commercial or recreational fishing in the CMPA; a member of the Burns Paiute Tribe; two members who are recognized environmental representatives (one who represents state interests and one who represents local interests); a member who represents dispersed recreational interests; a member who is a recreation permit holder in the CMPA; a member who participates in mechanized recreation; a member with expertise in wild horse management on Steens Mountain; and a member who has no financial interest in the CMPA. There will be no special government employees on the Council because all members are appointed to represent an interest.
(5) OTHER BALANCE FACTORS <i>List any other factors your agency identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC</i>
Not applicable
(6) CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS <i>Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance. The summary should:</i>

- (a) describe the process
- (b) identify the agency key staff involved (by position, not name)
- (c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by the agency; and
- (d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable

In order to obtain members, the CMPA announces a 45-day open call for nominations period in the Federal Register. During the open period, the CMPA and the BLM Oregon State Office sends a news release to all major media outlets throughout the state to solicit nominations. The call for nominations is also posted on the BLM-Oregon and the CMPA websites. The Governor of Oregon and the Harney County Court are also consulted.

The CMPA Manager selects the nominees. The recommendations are forwarded to the BLM-Oregon State Director and Governor of Oregon for concurrence. The recommendations are then forwarded to the BLM Director, before being sent on to the Department of the Interior (DOI) and DOI White House Liaison for vetting and approval. Committee members are appointed by the Secretary.

According to 43 CFR 1784, "A vacancy occurring by reason of removal, resignation, death, or departure from elected office shall be filled for the balance of the vacating member's term using the same method by which the original appointment was made."

MAC members serve 3-year terms, and can be re-nominated to serve additional 3-year terms.

(7) SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE

Subcommittees subject to FACA should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different*

**This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*

Subcommittees are not subject to FACA because they are not providing advice directly to a Federal Officer of the Department of the Interior. All advice or work products go directly to the parent Committee for review, consideration and deliberation at a FAC meeting before being submitted to the Department of the Interior through the DFO.

(8) OTHER

Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC

Not applicable

(9) DATE PREPARED/UPDATED

Insert the actual date the Membership Balance Plan was initially prepared, along with the date(s) the Plan is updated

December 6, 2011